

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 01943 282112Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-05
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /060 W
-----122558 282157Z /66

R 282036Z JUL 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5946
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL QUEBEC

UNCLAS TORONTO 1943

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, SOPN, CA
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION LEVESQUE LANGUAGE PROPOSAL, ONTARIO
REACTION AND UPCOMING PREMIERS' CONFERENCE

REF: (A) TORONTO 1913 (NOTAL); (B) TORONTO 1930

1. JULY 28 TORONTO STAR CARRIED PAGE 3 NEWS COVERAGE
OF PREMIER DAVIS' LETTER TO PREMIER LEVESQUE UNDER
HEADLINE "DAVIS TO QUEBEC: LANGUAGE RIGHTS CAN'T BE
TRADED."

2. STAR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT COLUMNIST JOHANTHAN
MANTHORPE WROTE IN COLUMN HEADED "IT'S UP TO THE PREMIERS
TO REMAKE CONFEDERATION," THAT PREMIER LEVESQUE'S
PROPOSAL ON LANGUAGE RIGHTS AGREEMENT WITH THE OTHER
PROVINCES HAS CHANGED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF NEXT MONTH'S
NEW BRUNSWICK CONFERENCE OF PREMIERS. MANTHORPE
WROTE THAT PREMIER LEVESQUE, IF HE DOES NOT GO TO
NEW BRUNSWICK TO DEFEND HIS PROPOSAL AND TO OBTAIN
THE REPSONSES OF THE OTHER PREMIERS, LEAVES HIMSELF
WIDE OPEN TO CHARGES OF INTENDING THE LANGUAGE OFFER
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AS "A CHEAP PIECE OF MANIPULATION." MANTHORPE
BELIEVES THAT PREMIER DAVIS AND HIS FELLOW PREMIERS
WANT TO DRAW LEVESQUE TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE BECAUSE
ALL THE PREMIERS WANT CHANGES OF VARYING DEGREES
IN THE CONSTITUTION. HE SUGGEST THAT THE NEW
BRUNSCIWCK MEETING MAY BECOME THE FORUM "WHERE THE
PREMIERS BEGIN TO HAMMER OUT BASIC PRINCIPLES OF

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM THAT THEY ALL DESIRE." MANTHORPE CON-
CLUDED WITH AN OPINION THAT PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU,
BY 10 YEARS OF AN "INTELLECTUALLY MISCONCEIVED"
BILINGUALISM POLICY, HAS LITTLE TO SAY ON NATIONAL
UNITY AND ON FRENCH ASPIRATIONS. "THE PROVINCES
CREATED THIS COUNTRY. IT IS LOOKING MORE AND MORE
AS THOUGH ONLY THEY CAN REMAKE IT."

3. JULY 28 TORONTO SUN'S ONLY MENTION OF DAVIS
RESPONSE WAS IN COLUMN OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT
CLAIRE HOY HEADLINED "NON DICE ON LANGUAGE DEAL."
HOY FELT THAT DAVIS UNDERSTATED HIS REPLY AND THAT
THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT IN GENERAL HAS BEEN DOING A
SOLID JOB IN RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF ONTARIO
FRANCOPHONES. HE SUGGESTED THAT PREMIER LEVESQUE MIGHT IGNORE THE
EXTENSIVE LIST OF ONTARIO PROGRAMS FOR FRANCOPHONES IN THE
DAVIS LETTER AND REPRESENT DAVIS' RESPONSE TO THE
PEOPLE OF QUEBEC AS PROOF THAT "ALL THOSE ENGLISH
BIGOTS IN ONTARIO DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH
HIS PLAN FOR THE ENGLISH MINORITY IN QUEBEC."

4. HOY POINTED OUT THAT MANY PEOPLE ARE REFERRING
TO THE PQ'S REINTRODUCED LANGUAGE BILL 101 AS BILL
401 "BECAUSE IT'S ENCOURAGING SO MANY QUEBECKERS
TO PACK UP AND HEAD STRAIGHT DOWN HIGHWAY 401
TO TORONTO."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TORONT01943
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770271-0310
Format: TEL
From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977077/aaaaafuz.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bec4676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TORONTO 1913, 77 TORONTO 1930
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1898787
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION LEVESQUE LANGUAGE PROPOSAL,ONTARIO REACTION AND UPCOMING PREMIERS' CONFERENCE
TAGS: PGOV, SOPN, CA, (MANTHORPE, JOHANTHAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bec4676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009